

CHAPTER 8: AIRCREW QUALIFICATION & TRAINING

A. Authorized Missions.

1. **Co-Pilot (CP).** Co-Pilots may operate in daylight only and to a minimum altitude of 1,000 feet AGL except for take off and landing. Co-Pilots are not included in the exemption from the provisions of FAR paragraph 91.119 (c) (see CHAPTER 6, paragraph H.1). They may act as pilot-in-command on the following missions.
 - a. Cargo and passenger transport flights.
 - b. Aids to navigation and chart updating patrols.
 - c. Pollution and ice patrols.
 - d. Area familiarization flights.
2. **First Pilot (FP).** In addition to CP missions, First Pilots (FP) may fly any other mission (except SAR procedures flight checks) deemed necessary by the unit commander.
3. **Aircraft Commander (AC).** Aircraft Commanders may fly any mission deemed necessary by the unit commander. They may perform aircraft facility inspections, pilot qualification checks, and SAR procedures flight checks.

B. Pilot Qualifications.

1. **General Qualifications.** To operate any aircraft on a Coast Guard mission the pilot in command must have logged at least the following hours as pilot-in-command.
 - a. 200 hours in an aircraft of the same category (fixed or rotary wing).
 - b. 100 hours in an aircraft of the same class (single or multi-engine land, etc.).
 - c. 50 hours and 25 landings to a full stop in a tail wheel aircraft if the aircraft to be flown is a tail wheel aircraft.
 - d. 50 hours in a complex aircraft (retractable gear) if the aircraft to be flown is a complex aircraft as described in FARs.
 - e. 50 hours in a gas turbine aircraft if the aircraft to be flown is a gas turbine powered aircraft.

- f. 25 hours in a high performance (over 200 HP) aircraft if the aircraft to be flown is a high performance aircraft as described in FARs.
 - g. Exceptions to the above "class" requirement:
 - (1) 10 hours for multi-engine aircraft with center thrust;
 - (2) 50 hours for single engine seaplanes or amphibians.
 - h. These hours may be logged concurrently.
- 2. **Co-Pilot (CP) Qualifications.** An Auxiliary Co-Pilot (CP) must possess the following qualifications.
 - a. Hold a valid FAA private pilot license (or higher) and a current third class FAA medical certificate (or higher).
 - b. Have accumulated and properly logged a total of 200 hours of flight time as pilot-in-command of which at least 12 hours were within the last 6 months.
 - c. Successfully pass the AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING COURSE open book examination (pilot) with a score of 90% or higher.
 - d. Have qualified as pilot trainee and flown on at least two Coast Guard missions not as pilot-in-command. (A pilot trainee is an Auxiliarist who has completed paragraph B.2.e.)
 - e. Be current for night flight in accordance with the FAR, part 61.57.
- 3. **First Pilot (FP) Qualifications.** An Auxiliary First Pilot (FP) must possess the following qualifications.
 - a. Satisfy all requirements for Co-Pilot.
 - b. Have 500 hours pilot-in-command flight time.
 - c. Complete a current SAR procedures flight check.
 - d. Complete an area familiarization, as required by the district commander.
- 4. **Aircraft Commander (AC) Qualifications.** Auxiliary Aircraft Commanders (AC) must possess the following qualifications.

- a. Satisfy all requirements for First Pilot.
- b. Hold a current FAA instrument rating.
- c. Have logged 1,000 hours pilot-in-command flight time.

C. Observer Qualifications. Auxiliary Observers must meet the following requirements.

1. Be recommended for observer training by a First Pilot or Aircraft Commander, then successfully pass the AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING COURSE open book examination (observer) with a score of 90% or better.
2. After passing the written examination, participate as an observer trainee in missions totaling 10 flight hours.
3. Demonstrate an ability to understand and proficiently navigate from sectional charts.
4. Demonstrate an ability to handle Coast Guard communications.
5. Complete such area familiarization as required by the district commander.
6. Have an Auxiliary First Pilot or Aircraft Commander certify completion of these requirements.

D. Currency Requirements. Air crewmembers must meet the following applicable requirements to maintain Auxiliary Aviation qualifications.

1. **All Air Crewmembers.** All Auxiliary air crewmembers must meet the following requirements.
 - a. **Emergency Egress Training.** Annual training in emergency egress must include at least a lecture on basic principles, use of related equipment, egress procedures, and the required preflight briefing for the types of aircraft in use.
 - b. **Water Survival Training.** Before the first flight as an air crewmember in an Auxiliary aircraft operating offshore under orders, and then as an annual requirement, each crewmember must prove their swimming ability and swim 50 yards. Crewmembers may wear an inflated PFD during the swim. They must receive instruction in water survival techniques and the use of all survival equipment on board the aircraft. Auxiliarists may make use of available Coast Guard personnel, equipment, and facilities in meeting the requirements of this paragraph.

2. **All Pilots.** All Auxiliary pilots must meet the following requirements.

- a. Meet requirements for "All Air Crewmembers," paragraph D.1.
- b. Fly and properly log a minimum of 12 hours as pilot-in-command each semiannual period. The semiannual periods are 1 January through 30 June and 1 July through 31 December. Also, pilots must satisfy the requirements of FAR 61.57.
- c. Annually attend any one of the following (in order of precedence):
 - (1) An air safety workshop conducted for Auxiliary air crewmembers by a Coast Guard air station or a Commandant (G-NAB-2) representative. The instructor must use a syllabus approved by Commandant (G-KSE).
 - (2) Two FAA or AOPA flight safety workshops.
 - (3) An approved Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic.

3. **Co-Pilot.** All Auxiliary Co-Pilots must meet the requirements for "All Pilots," paragraph D.2.

4. **First Pilots.** All Auxiliary First Pilots must meet the following requirements.

- a. Meet all requirements for "All Pilots," paragraph D.2.
- b. Fly 3 missions totalling 6 hours under orders each semiannual period.
- c. Have a current SAR Procedures Flight Check.
 - (1) The SAR procedures flight check is a biennial requirement. The certification expires 24 months from the date of the last check. Only a current Auxiliary Aircraft Commander or a qualified Coast Guard Aircraft Commander, designated in writing by the air station commander, may give the SAR procedures check. This check must be scheduled so that it falls in the alternate year from the FAA required biennial flight review (BFR). In years that require both the SAR procedures check and BFR, completion of the BFR allows the Auxiliary aviator to maintain qualification as First Pilot or Aircraft Commander. However, the Auxiliarist

must then complete the SAR procedures check within the next 12 month period.

- (2) Auxiliarists must record their SAR Procedures Flight Check by a line entry in the Auxiliary aviator's pilot log book (signed by the check pilot) and on the Auxiliary Aviation Procedures Check (Auxiliary National Supply Center form #7048). This becomes one of the requirements during the annual pilot qualification and facility inspection process.

5. **Aircraft Commanders.** All Auxiliary Aircraft Commanders must meet the following requirements.

- a. Meet all requirements for "First Pilots," paragraph D.4.
- b. Maintain a current instrument rating in accordance with the FARs.

6. **Failure To Maintain Currency.** Aircraft Commanders or First Pilots who do not maintain currency requirements, which includes failure to attend any required workshop, revert to Co-pilot or First Pilot, as appropriate. An Auxiliarist's current currency maintenance completion status will determine to what specific level the individual must revert.

7. **Observers.** There are no specific observer currency requirements, other than those for "All Air Crewmembers," paragraph D.1. Directors must provide opportunities for observers to participate in training sessions with Auxiliary pilots.

- E. **Records.** Initial designation of an Auxiliarist as an Auxiliary Aviator and the awarding of any later upgrade or the rescinding of any designation or upgrade is the sole responsibility of the director.

1. **Pilot Designations.** The director makes all pilot designations in section VIII of the Auxiliary Qualification And Aircraft Facility Inspection Report (CG-2736B). The director must certify the original qualification and any upgrade by letter. Original certification letters are sent to the Auxiliarist concerned, with copies going to unit commanders and the Auxiliarist's record.
2. **Observer Designations.** The director must certify Observer designations by letter to the Auxiliarist, with a copy to their flotilla and Auxiliarist's record.